House Resolution No. 2867

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State youths who admirably demonstrate their true potential as lifelong learners, involved citizens, and future societal leaders through their achievements as college students; and

Whereas, Melissa Austen of Columbia, Missouri, has attained considerable distinction as a student in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at the University of Missouri-Columbia; and

Whereas, Melissa Austen recently enhanced her already impressive record of accomplishments when she was selected as one of thirty-six Shear Fellows who will attend the 21st Century Leadership Academy that will be held on the campus of the University of Missouri-Saint Louis from May 18 through May 23, 2008; and

Whereas, during her tenure as a student at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Melissa Austen has been an active participant in the student chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association and the Veterinary Business Management Association and as a lead student volunteer for the annual Gentle Doctor Benefit that raises money for veterinary student scholarships; and

Whereas, the 21st Century Leadership Academy is a nonpartisan, university-based public policy center sponsored by the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, which assists women in developing the interests and skills necessary to succeed as full participants within government as elected or appointed officials and as employed policy makers; and

Whereas, the 21st Century Leadership Academy in 2008 will feature a series of workshops and hands-on programs led by women role models to educate the Shear Fellows about the importance of women's participation in public policy and will include a visit to the state capitol in Jefferson City for a mock debate, meetings with Supreme Court judges and statewide elected officeholders, and a dinner that will feature Missouri Supreme Court Judge Patricia Breckenridge as the keynote speaker:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the well-deserved selection of Melissa Austen to attend the 21st Century Leadership Academy at the University of Missouri-Saint Louis and to convey to her this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for continued personal and academic success for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Melissa Austen of Columbia, Missouri.

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2867, adopted May 8, 2008.